

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-20 were pending in the application. The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 11-20, while indicating that claims 9 and 10 are objected to. By this Amendment, claims 9 and 19 have been cancelled and new claim 21 has been added, thus, claims 1-8, 10-18, 20 and 21 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Claim Objections

On page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner objected to claims 1-20 on the basis of some informalities. By this Amendment, the claims have been amended based on the Examiner's comments and it is submitted that the claims should now be in appropriate form.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 6 of the Office Action the Examiner objected to claims 9 and 10 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In addition, the Examiner stated "the prior art, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or suggest the combination particularly wherein the method includes the step of using the recited fixed mirror in a dispersion compensator, as recited in claim 9" (see page 6 of Office Action).

By this Amendment, claim 9 has been essentially been rewritten in independent form as amended claim 1. It is noted that these two claims have been combined except that the word "only" has been deleted from claim 1. It is submitted that claim 1, as amended, should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-8 and 10 depend, directly or indirectly from claim 1 and include all of the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the prior art. By way of example and not limitation, it is submitted that the prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed V-groove structure of claim 3 or the installation of a cushion member as set forth in claim 4. For these reasons and for the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claims 2-8 and 10 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Claim 11, as amended, recites:

A variable wavelength dispersion compensator including an

aspherical mirror generating differing wavelength dispersions to reflected lights corresponding to a shape of a reflecting surface of the aspherical mirror, comprising:

a mirror part including a base plate formed with said aspherical mirror on one face thereof, and a boss provided on the other face of said base plate opposite to the face on which the mirror is formed; and

a first fixture fixing only said boss, so that said mirror part excluding said boss is not in contact with other members.

Therefore, it is submitted that claim 11 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Claims 12-18 and 20 depend, directly or indirectly from claim 11 and include all of the features of that claim, plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the prior art. For example, claim 13 recites a V-groove structure and claim 14 recites a cushion number. For these reasons and for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 11, it is submitted that claim 12-18 and 20 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

New Claim 21

New claim 21 is directed to a mirror fixing method and recites:

A mirror fixing method comprising:

forming a base plate on a mirror part of a mirror on one face thereof;

providing a boss on the other face of said base plate;

fixing said boss so that said mirror part excluding said boss is not in contact with other members; and

forming a mirror which is used in a variable wavelength dispersion

compensator on the one face of said base plate of said mirror part.
Therefore, it is submitted that claim 21 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

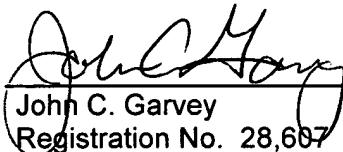
Summary

It is submitted that none of the references either taken alone or in combination, teach the present claimed invention. Thus, claims 1-8, 10-18, 20 and 21 are deemed to be in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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